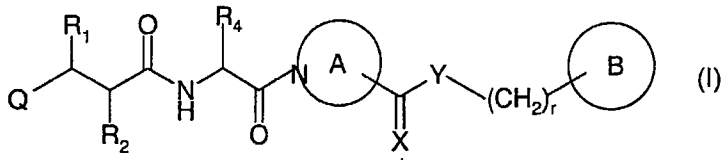
The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula(II), or a pharmaceutical or veterinary acceptable salt, hydrate or solvate thereof



(I)

wherein:

Q represents a radical of formula -N(OH)CH(=O) or formula -C(=O)NH(OH);

R_1 represents hydrogen, methyl or trifluoromethyl or, except when Q is a radical of formula -N(OH)CH(=O), a hydroxy, halo or amino group;

R_2 represents a group R_{10}-$(D)_n$-$(ALK)_m$- wherein

R_{10} represents hydrogen, or an optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_2-C_6 alkenyl, C_2-C_6 alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, or heterocyclyl group and

ALK represents a straight or branched divalent C_1-C_6 alkylene, C_2-C_6 alkenylene, or C_2-C_6 alkynylene radical, and may be interrupted by one or more non-adjacent -NH-, -O- or -S- linkages,

D represents -NH-, -O- or -S-, and

m and n are independently 0 or 1;

R_4 represents the side chain of a natural or non-natural alpha amino acid;

ring A represents an optionally substituted monocyclic heterocyclic ring containing from 5 to 7 ring atoms, one of which is the nitrogen atom shown, the remaining ring atoms being selected from compatible combinations of carbon, oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen;
X is oxygen or sulfur;

Y is oxygen, sulfur or -NH-;

~~R~~ r is 0, 1, 2 or 3; and

ring B represents an optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system.

2. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein ~~R~~ R_1 is hydrogen.

3. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_2 is:

optionally substituted C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_3-C_6 alkenyl, C_3-C_6 alkynyl or cycloalkyl;

phenyl (C_1- C_6 alkyl)-, phenyl (C_3-C_6 alkenyl)- or phenyl (C_3-C_6 alkynyl)- optionally substituted in the phenyl ring;

cycloalkyl (C_1- C_6 alkyl)-, cycloalkyl (C_3-C_6 alkenyl)-or cycloalkyl (C_3-C_6 alkynyl)- optionally substituted in the cycloalkyl ring;

heterocyclyl (C_1- C_6 alkyl)-, heterocyclyl (C_3-C_6 alkenyl)- or heterocyclyl (C_3-C_6 alkynyl)- optionally substituted in the heterocyclyl ring; or

CH_3 $(CH_2)_pO(CH_2)_q$- or $CH_3(CH_2)_pS(CH_2)_q$-, wherein p is 0, 1, 2 or 3 and q is 1, 2 or 3.

4. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_2 is methyl, ethyl, n- or iso-propyl, n- or iso-butyl, n-pentyl, iso-pentyl 3-methyl-but-1-yl, n-hexyl, n-heptyl, n-acetyl, n-octyl, methylsulfanylethyl, ethylsulfanylmethyl, 2-methoxyethyl, 2-ethoxyethyl, 2-

ethoxymethyl, 3-hydroxypropyl, allyl, 3-phenylprop-3-en-1-yl, prop-2-yn-1-yl, 3-phenylprop-2-yn-1-yl, 3-(2-chlorophenyl)prop-2-yn-1-yl, but-2-yn-1-yl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclopentylethyl, cyclopentylpropyl, cyclohexylmethyl, cyclohexylethyl, cyclohexylpropyl, furan-2-ylmethyl, furan-3-methyl, tetrahydrofuran-2-ylmethyl, tetrahydrofuran-2-ylmethyl, piperidinylmethyl, phenylpropyl, 4-chlorophenylpropyl, 4-methylphenylpropyl, 4-methoxyphenylpropyl, benzyl, 4-chlorobenzyl, 4-methylbenzyl, or 4-methoxybenzyl.

5. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_2 is (C_1- C_6) alkyl-, cycloalkylmethyl-, (C_1- C_3)alkyl-S-(C_1- C_3)alkyl-, or (C_1- C_3)alkyl-O-(C_1- C_3) alkyl-.

6. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_4 is:

the characterising group of a natural α amino acid or 4-methoxyphenylmethyl, in which any functional group may be protected, any amino group may be acylated and any carboxyl group present may be amidated; or

a group-$[Alk]_nR_9$ where Alk is a (C_1- C_6) alkylene or (C_2-C_6)alkenylene group optionally interrupted by one or more -O-, or -S- atoms or -$N(R_{12})$- groups [where R_{12} is a hydrogen atom or a (C_1- C_6) alkyl group], n is 0 or 1, and R_9 is hydrogen or an optionally substituted phenyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl group or (only when n is 1) R_9 may additionally be hydroxy, mercapto, (C_1-C_6)alkylthio, amino, halo, trifluoromethyl, nitro, -COOH, -$CONH_2$, -$COOR^A$, -$NHCOR^A$, -$CONHR^A$, -NHR^A, -$NRAR^B$, or -$CONR^AR^B$ wherein R^A and R^B are independently a (C_1-C_6)alkyl group; or

a benzyl group substituted in the phenyl ring by a group of formula -OCH_2COR_8 whereR_8 is hydroxyl, amino, (C_1- C_6) alkoxy, phenyl(C_1- C_6)alkoxy, (C_1-C_6)alkylamino, di((C_1-C_6) alkyl)amino, phenyl(C_1-C_6)alkylamino; or

a heterocyclic(C_1-C_6)alkyl group, either being unsubstituted or mono- or di-substituted in the heterocyclic ring with halo, nitro, carboxy,(C_1-C_6)alkoxy, cyano,

(C_1-C_6)alkanoyl, trifluoromethyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl, hydroxy, formyl, amino,(C_1-C_6)alkylamino, di-(C_1-C_6)alkylamino, mercapto, (C_1-C_6)alkylthio, hydroxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, mercapto(C_1-C_6)alkyl or (C_1-C_6)alkylphenylmethyl; or

a group-$CR_aR_bR_c$ in which:

each of R_a, R_b and R_c is independently hydrogen, (C_1- C_6)alkyl, (C_2-C_6)alkenyl, (C_2-C_6)alkynyl, phenyl (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl; or

R_c is hydrogen and R_a and R_b are independently phenyl or heteroaryl such as pyridyl; or

R_c is hydrogen, (C_1- C_6)alkyl, (C_2-C_6)alkenyl, (C_2-C_6)alkynyl, phenyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl, or(C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl, and R_a and R_b together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a 3 to 8 membered cycloalkyl or a 5-to 6-membered heterocyclic ring; or

R_a, R_b and R_c together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a tricyclic ring; or

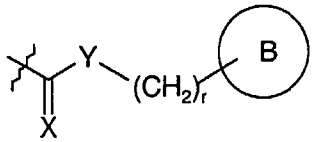
R_a and R_b are each independently (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_2-C_6)alkenyl, (C_2-C_6)alkynyl, phenyl(C_1-C_6) alkyl, or a group as defined for R_c below other than hydrogen, or R_a and R_b together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a cycloalkyl or heterocyclic ring, and R_c is hydrogen, -OH, -SH, halogen, -CN, -CO_2H, (C_1-C_4)perfluoroalkyl, -CH_2OH, -CO_2(C_1-C_6)alkyl,-O(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -O(C_2-C_6)alkenyl, -S(C_1- C_6)alkyl, -SO(C_1- C_6)alkyl, - SO_2(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -S(C_2-C_6) alkenyl, -SO(C_2-C_6) alkenyl, -SO_2(C_2-C_6) alkenyl or a group-Q-W wherein Q represents a bond or -O-, - S-, -SO- or -SO_2- and W represents a phenyl, phenylalkyl, (C_3-C_8) cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_8)cycloalkylalkyl, (C_4- C_8)cycloalkenyl, (C_4-C_8)cycloalkenylalkyl, heteroaryl or heteroarylalkyl group, which group W may optionally be substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from, hydroxyl, halogen, -CN, -CO_2H, -CO2(C_1- C_6)alkyl, -$CONH_2$, -CONH(C_1- C_6)alkyl, - CONH(C_1-C_6alkyl)$_2$, -

CHO, -CH_2OH, (C_1-C_4)perfluoroalkyl, -O(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -S(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -SO(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -SO_2(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -NO_2, -NH_2, -NH(C_1-C_6)alkyl, N((C_1-C_6)alkyl)$_2$, -NHCO(C_1- C_6)alkyl, (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_2-C_6)alkenyl, (C_2-C_6)alkynyl, (C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl, (C_4- C_8)cycloalkenyl, phenyl or benzyl.

7. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_4 is methyl, ethyl, benzyl, 4-cholorobenzyl, 4-hydroxybenzyl, phenyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexylmethyl, pyridine-3-ylmethyl, tert-butoxymethyl, naphthylmethyl, iso-butyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl, 1-benzylthio-1-methylethyl, 1-methylthio-1-methylethyl, 1-mercapto-1-methylethyl, 1-methoxy-1-methylethyl, 1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl, 1-fluoro-1-methylethyl, hydroxymethyl, 2-hydroxethyl, 2-carboxyethyl, 2-methylcarbomoylethyl, 2-carbamoylethyl, or 4-aminobutyl.

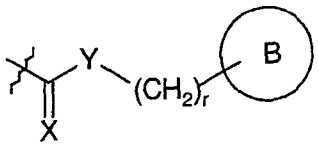
8. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_4 is tert-butyl, iso-butyl, benzyl, isopropyl or methyl.

9. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein ring A is optionally substituted 1-pyrrolidinyl, piperidin-1-yl, 1-piperazinyl, hexahydro-1-pyridazinyl, morpolin-4-yl, tetrahydro-1,4-thiazin-4-yl, tetrahydro-1,4-thiazin-4-yl 1-oxide, tetrahydro-1,4-thiazin-4-yl 1,1-dioxide, hexahydroazipino, thiomorpholino, diazepino, thiazolidinyl or octahydroazochino.



10. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein ring A is piperidin-1-yl or 1-piperazin-4-yl.

11. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein the grouping

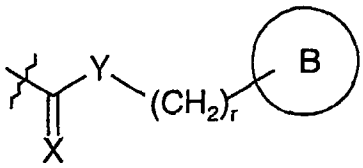


present in compounds(I) is attached to a ring carbon atom or a second ring nitrogen atom of ring A.

12. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein r is 0 or 1.

13. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein ring B is optionally substituted phenyl, 2-, 3- or 4-pyridyl, 9H-fluoren-9-yl, naphthyl, or 4-benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl.

14. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein in the grouping



present in compounds(I), X is oxygen or sulphur when Y is -NH-, or both X and Y are oxygen.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for the treatment of microbial infections in humans and nonhuman mammals, which comprises~~ of inhibiting growth of gram-positive bacteria administering to ~~a subject suffering such infection an antimicrobially effective dose of~~ in need thereof a compound as claimed in claim 1.

18. (Currently Amended) An ~~antimicrobial~~ composition comprising a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier and a compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~together with a pharmaceutical~~

~~acceptable carrier~~in an amount effective to inhibit growth of bacteria.

19. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 5 wherein R_2 is n-propyl, n-butyl, n-pentyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclopentylethyl, cyclohexylmethyl or cyclohexylethyl

20. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein R_2 is:

optionally substituted C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_3-C_6 alkenyl, C_3-C_6 alkynyl or cycloalkyl;

phenyl (C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, phenyl (C_3-C_6 alkenyl)- or phenyl (C_3-C_6 alkynyl)- optionally substituted in the phenyl ring;

cycloalkyl (C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, cycloalkyl (C_3-C_6 alkenyl)- or cycloalkyl (C_3-C_6 alkynyl)- optionally substituted in the cycloalkyl ring;

heterocyclyl (C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, heterocyclyl (C_3-C_6 alkenyl)- or heterocyclyl (C_3-C_6 alkynyl)- optionally substituted in the heterocyclyl ring; or

CH_3 $(CH_2)_pO(CH_2)_q$- or $CH_3(CH_2)_pS(CH_2)_q$-, wherein p is 0, 1, 2 or 3 and q is 1, 2 or 3.

21. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein R_2 is methyl, ethyl, n-or iso-propyl, n-or iso-butyl, n-pentyl, iso-pentyl 3- methyl-but-1-yl, n-hexyl, n-heptyl, n-acetyl, n-octyl, methylsulfanylethyl, ethylsulfanylmethyl, 2-methoxyethyl, 2-ethoxyethyl, 2-ethoxymethyl, 3- hydroxypropyl, allyl,3-phenylprop-3-en-1-yl, prop-2-yn-1-yl, 3-phenylprop-2-yn-1-yl, 3-(2-chlorophenyl)prop-2-yn-1-yl, but-2-yn-1-yl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclopentylethyl, cyclopentylpropyl, cyclohexylmethyl, cyclohexylethyl, cyclohexylpropyl, furan-2-ylmethyl, furan-3-methyl, tetrahydrofuran-2-ylmethyl, tetrahydrofuran-2-ylmethyl, piperidinylmethyl, phenylpropyl, 4-chlorophenylpropyl, 4-methylphenylpropyl, 4-methoxyphenylpropyl, benzyl, 4-chlorobenzyl, 4-methylbenzyl, or 4-methoxybenzyl.

22. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein R_2 is (C_1- C_6) alkyl-, cycloalkylmethyl-, (C_1-C_3)alkyl-S-(C_1-C_3)alkyl-, or (C_1-C_3)alkyl-O-(C_1-C_3) alkyl-.